

REVISION OF SPIDER TAXA DESCRIBED BY KYUKICHI KISHIDA: PART 1. PERSONAL HISTORY AND A LIST OF HIS WORKS ON SPIDERS

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ABSTRACT. The personal history of forgotten Japanese arachnologist, Kyukichi Kishida (1888–1968) is described for the first time based on information collected from the literature and through interviews with the late Prof. Seikichi Kishida (1931–2002), the fourth son of K. Kishida. A complete list of Kishida's works on spiders is provided. Much confusion resulted from the species and higher taxa descriptions or species designations made by Kishida. In many cases he first proposed a new name for an undescribed species found but left its description to his followers. Therefore, some species were really described by another person, while many *nomina nuda* were produced. A revision of each taxon with systematical and nomenclatural problems will be given in forthcoming parts of this serial (in preparation).

Keywords: Bibliography, arachnology, Kyukichi Kishida, Japan

Kyukichi Kishida (1888–1968) was a Japanese zoologist who studied morphology and systematics of various groups of animals including spiders, mites, pseudoscorpions and other arachnids, myriapods and insects, as well as sipunculids, birds and mammals. He described from Japan not only small animals such as spiders, mites and beetles, but also some mammals such as a bat, a vole and even a wolf.

He was a pioneer in the history of Japanese arachnology. Because nobody presented lectures on arachnology in Japanese universities at that time, he taught himself with European literature and founded some zoological societies in Japan. His students included: Seiji Yuhara (1906–1929), Toshio Uyemura (1909–1988), Makoto Yoshikura (1911–2003), Koji Nakatsuji (1911–1945), Toshihiro Komatsu (1911–1982), Izumi Kayashima (1911–), Yasunosuke Chikuni (1911–2005), and Takeo Yaginuma (1916–1995). Most present-day Japanese arachnologists including the present author were influenced intellectually by T. Yaginuma who made an effort to popularize arachnology in Japan with his book, 'Spiders of Japan in Colour' (Yaginuma 1960).

In 1929, Kishida established Lanzan-kai, The Society of Arachnology and Zoology, in Tokyo and published the journal, *Lansania* (Fig. 1). The figure on its cover indicates Lanzan Ono (1729–1810) to whom Kishida paid

respect. Lanzan Ono was an active herbalist in the Edo Era (1603–1867), who published a series of books on Japanese flora and fauna. The society of Lanzan-kai was, however, not always successful and became inactive after only a few years. The Arachnological Society of East Asia was established in 1936 under Kishida and took the place of the Lanzan-kai, and the organ *Acta Arachnologica* has been continuously published for about 70 years.

Despite these accomplishments, Kishida's legacy is poorly known and some of his spider taxonomy has created considerable confusion. For instance, of more than 100 publications by K. Kishida (see the following pages), only four are listed in Roewer (1942), three in Bonnet (1945), 24 in Brignoli (1983), and only a few are included in the newest international database (Platnick 2005). His works were forgotten even by Japanese arachnologists.

Many of the taxa named by Kishida were not always described correctly and the depository of his collection was unknown. Consequently, these were left as *nomina nuda*. Only a few cases have been solved, for instance, *Prodidomus imaidzumii* Kishida 1914 was re-described by Platnick (1976), the salticid *Chirothecia insulana* Kishida 1914 was revised and transferred to *Harmochirus* by Logunov et al. (1997), the corinnid genus *Utivarachna* Kishida 1940 was recognized by Deeleman-Reinhold (2001), and a small theraphosid

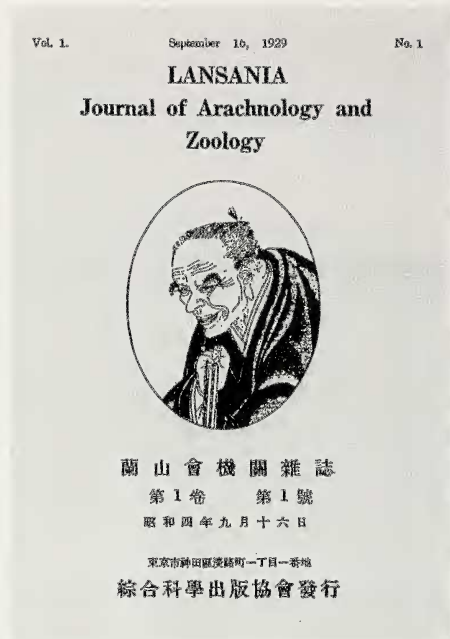


Figure 1.—Front cover of *Lansania*, the first arachnological journal in the world (commenced in 1929) published by Kyukichi Kishida.

from Taiwan, *Yamia watasei* Kishida 1920 was recently redescribed by Haupt & Schmidt (2004).

The purpose of this study is to bring the whole aspect on problematical names of spiders caused by Kishida's treatment to light by providing: 1) his personal history and a character sketch, 2) a list of his publications on spiders, 3) a list of spider taxa named by him, 4) a list of valid names extracted from these, 5) a list of *nomina nuda*, and 6) information on type specimens. This contribution deals with parts 1 and 2. The remaining sections will be provided in forthcoming publications.

METHODS

Information about Kishida's personal history was acquired through interviews with the late Prof. Seikichi Kishida (1931–2002), the fourth son of Kishida. Publications by Kyukichi Kishida were found by searching the library complexes of universities in Japan, and a complete list of his works was made. The missing depositories of his spider collection were followed up. All the Latin names of spiders made by K. Kishida were listed from his papers as well as those of other Japanese arachnologists and their originality and author-

ship were determined according to the past and present rules of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. The systematic position of species with valid names was judged based on comparison with specimens in the arachnid collection of the Department of Zoology, National Science Museum in Tokyo. Some new synonymies are determined. Valid names as well as remaining *nomina nuda* are herein listed.

RESULTS

Brief Personal History of Kyukichi Kishida.—Kyukichi Kishida was born in 1888 at Maizuru in Kyoto Prefecture, in central Japan. He grew up during the middle of the Meiji Era (1868–1912), during which Japan became very quickly westernized. Between 1603 and 1867 (Edo Era) this country was closed and isolated from European sciences. Since Ludwig Koch (1878) first reported on Japanese spiders with Latin names, only European people led this field. Bösenberg & Strand (1906) described about 400 species and recorded almost all the common species in the Japanese spider fauna.

After graduating from the Teachers' College of Kyoto Prefecture in 1908, Kishida began his career as a teacher in a primary school. At the same time he learned zoology from the European literature and published his first report (1907) on a spider. This paper was the first by a Japanese researcher to describe a spider species in Latin. Between 1913 and 1914, he published a monograph of Japanese spiders serially in 12 parts in the *Scientific World*.

In 1915, he moved to a junior high school in Odate, northern Japan, and gave lectures on biology, geology and even music. However, after three years he resigned and entered the Department of Zoology of Tokyo University to study zoology. In 1921, he was employed at the Ministry of Agriculture as a scientist. Some of his most important papers were written at that time, for instance on *Yamia* Kishida 1920 (Kishida 1920) and *Heptathela* Kishida 1923 (Kishida 1923). He always considered it more important to place species in a systematic context within the Araneae rather than to record and describe each species.

In 1940, he was employed at Waseda University as a lecturer but had to be evacuated from Tokyo in 1944 due to the situation cre-

ated in the city from the events of World War II. He moved to his home in Kyoto to escape the bombings by the American Air Force. After the war he returned to Tokyo in 1948 and was employed at the Forestry Agency. Unfortunately, the great confusion in social conditions that prevailed in Japan for about ten years during and after the war decreased his activities in arachnology and his interest tended mainly toward mammalogy and ornithology during this period.

Late in life in 1961, he received the Doctor of Science degree at Hiroshima University with a study in osteology of the Japanese Serow *Capricornulus* (an artiodactyle) and in the next year he received the Doctor of Agriculture at Tokyo University of Agriculture with a study of Lagomorpha.

He died at the age of 80 in 1968 from Parkinson's disease. Many unpublished manuscripts found at his home after death suggested that his erudition with extensive knowledge in zoology may not be shown in full. In 1969, the Arachnological Society of East Asia published Nos. 49/50 of *Atypus* as a memorial issue for K. Kishida. M. Yoshikura, T. Komatsu, I. Kayashima, K. Morikawa, T. Yaginuma and T. Uyemura wrote memoirs of him.

It is both a strong and a weak point of his character that he had such a wide range of knowledge and interests in zoology. At the time, he was the only specialist in Japan who knew the names of spiders. This led him to assign a new name first without providing a formal description, particularly when he obtained undescribed species collected during zoological expeditions and was asked to identify the specimens. The formal descriptions he left to his followers and sometimes he returned the specimens to the collectors. It depended on his followers whether this new species would be really described or only cited with Latin names probably assigned by Kishida. Therefore, many *nomina nuda* exist, while some were described by other researchers. For example, an araneid, *Suzumia orientalis* named by Kishida was described three times by Yuhara (1931), Nakatsudi (1943) and Kayashima (1943) from different type localities in Japan and Taiwan. Although the species was regarded as a junior synonym of *Cyrtophora moluccensis* (Doleschall 1857) *sensu lato*, the authorship needs to be confirmed for the future phylogenetic analysis on this group



Figure 2.—Portrait of Kyukichi Kishida in 1964. [Photograph by Seikichi Kishida.]

(Ono 1994). Explanation of each systematic and nomenclatural problem will be given in the coming parts of this subject (in preparation).

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